



The public planning meeting on April 3, 2003 is being held to discuss, comment, and suggest changes to the goals outlined in the 1987 Forest Plan. A goal is defined as a concise statement that describes a desired condition to be achieved sometime in the future. It is normally expressed in broad terms and is timeless. Goals serve as a blueprint for the Forest Plan and will lay the groundwork for the rest of the Plan. More detailed information on goals may be found in Section III of, "Implementing the Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan – A 15 Year Retrospective". This can be found on our web site (provided at the bottom of this page) or at the Forest Service office in Hector, NY.

## **ROLE OF THE FOREST FROM 1987 FINGER LAKES FOREST PLAN**

The Forest Plan was created to manage the Finger Lakes National Forest to fulfill the following roles in the regional context. These roles were taken from page 4.03 of the 1987 Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

- Provide opportunities to observe and enjoy nature.
- Provide opportunities to roam around in a large unrestricted land area.
- Produce wood, forage, and other products like high quality recreation, diverse wildlife habitat, and rare plants without destroying long-term productivity.
- Demonstrate Multiple Use management.
- Educate and promote an awareness of natural resource management and a strong conservation ethic.
- Provide benefits not found on private lands.

## **1987 FINGER LAKES FOREST PLAN GOALS**

\*The following goals were taken from pages 4.04-4.06 of the 1987 Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

### **Protect the Environment**

1. Protect the basic integrity of soil, air and water resources so they can continue their life supporting functions in perpetuity, by such requirements as preventing erosion, meeting air quality standards, preventing contamination of surface and ground water.
2. Promote a diversity of life forms. - - This goal recognizes the inherent rights of other species with which we share the earth; the importance of genetic diversity in maintaining resilience in the face of environmental disturbances, and the enrichment of human lives by variety. It includes the protection of unique habitats and species, and management to provide a diversity of habitat types.
3. Protect significant cultural and historic resources. - -Cultural and historic resources are important to remind us of alternative ways of coping with and viewing the world, and of what worked and didn't work in the past, and the forces that shaped current management.
4. Conserve resources and energy. - - This involves not wasting non-renewable energy sources in the works we do; getting full utilization of resources we do remove; giving back to the land what is needed to sustain its long-term productivity, and making the most effective use of the taxpayers dollar.

For more information about Forest Plan revision please visit our web site at  
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl/nepa\\_planning/plan\\_revision.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl/nepa_planning/plan_revision.htm)  
or contact Mike Dockry at 607-546-4470.



### **Provide a variety of goods and services; emphasizing those not available from other lands**

5. Provide types of recreation that require a large, relatively undeveloped land area. Includes providing “room to roam”, opportunities for relative solitude, and freedom from restrictions.
6. Provide types of wildlife habitat not common on other lands (e.g. shrub openings).
7. Produce range forage commensurate with demand, and compatible with other uses of the Forest.
8. Manage timber to produce high quality sawtimber, since this requires long tenure of land ownership.

### **Provide a reasonably safe, hospitable environment for Forest visitors**

9. Conduct management of recreation facilities and other uses to provide a reasonable level of safety in keeping with a relatively undeveloped outdoor environment.
10. Provide sufficient public information for the Forest visitor to take full advantage of available goods, services and opportunities.
11. Promote equal opportunity for all citizens in Forest programs and uses, regardless of race, color, creed, disability, etc.

### **Promote a conservation ethic and knowledge of natural resource management**

12. Promote use of the District for environmental education and research.
13. Demonstrate innovative, ecologically sound management practices that can be applied to other lands.

### **Consolidate national forest land ownership for more effective management**

14. This goal involves perusing State enabling legislation, and carrying out land acquisitions and exchanges to improve Forest ownership patterns.

### **Promote economic stability of local communities**

15. Provide a fairly consistent flow of goods and services on which local communities depend for their economic survival.
16. Minimize disruptions to local economics that might result from forest management decisions.

### **Help meet the nation’s energy needs**

17. This goal involves leasing for gas exploration and development, in a way that is compatible with conserving surface resources and their uses.

### **Retain the ability to respond to a changing environment**

18. Keep abreast of economic, social, technological, and environmental trends that may affect the Forest.
19. Limit irreversible commitments of resources to keep options open for future generations.

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FOREST SERVICE COMMENTS ON FLNF 1987 FOREST PLAN GOALS  
(Comments taken from the 15 Year Retrospective)

1987 FOREST PLAN GOAL	FOREST SERVICE COMMENTS
<b><i>Protect the Environment</i></b>	
1. Protect the basic integrity of soil, air and water resources so they can continue their life supporting functions in perpetuity, by such requirements as preventing erosion, meeting air quality standards, preventing contamination of surface and ground water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider including “enhance or maintain” instead of just protect</li> </ul>
2. Promote a diversity of life forms - - Cultural and historic resources are important to remind us of alternative ways of coping with and viewing the world, us of what worked and didn’t work in the past, and of the forces that shaped current management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider a goal to avoid the degradation of biodiversity. This implies a preference for native and desirable non-native plants and animals while discouraging undesirable or aggressive non-native species.</li> <li>• Place emphasis on integrated ecosystem management and how the Forest fits into the surrounding land</li> <li>• Simplify the goal statement</li> </ul>
3. Protect significant cultural and historic resources. - -Cultural and historic resources are important to reminds us of alternative ways of coping with and viewing the world, us of what worked an didn’t work in the past, and the forces that shaped current management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simplify the goal statement</li> </ul>
4. Conserve resources and energy. - - This involves not wasting non renewable energy sources in the works we do; getting full utilization of resources we do remove; giving back to the land what is needed to sustain its long-term productivity, and making the most effective use of the taxpayers dollar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This could go into the administration section of the Forest Plan rather than the goal section.</li> <li>• This goal could be dropped or changed to reflect energy efficiency and pollution prevention.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Provide a variety of goods and serves; emphasizing those not available from other lands</i></b>	
5. Provide types of recreation that require a large, relatively undeveloped land area. Includes providing “room to roam”, opportunities for relative solitude, and	

freedom from restrictions.	
6. Provide types of wildlife habitat not common on other lands (e.g. shrub openings).	
7. Produce range forage commensurate with demand, and compatible with other uses of the Forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider expanding the goal to include providing grasslands and shrublands for forage and habitat for wildlife, like the Henslow Sparrow or wild turkey as well as for cattle.</li> <li>• Various methods and tools should be available to keep non-forest communities from vegetative succession (mowing, burning, cutting). This may be part of the objectives.</li> </ul>
8. Manage timber to produce high quality sawtimber, since this requires long tenure of land ownership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A goal of maintaining oak should be considered.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Provide a reasonably safe, hospitable environment for Forest visitors.</i></b>	
9. Conduct management of recreation facilities and other uses to provide a reasonable level of safety in keeping with a relatively undeveloped outdoor environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rewrite the goal to include units of measure used by the Forest Service Nationally</li> <li>• Incorporate flexibility into the goal in order to increase campground facilities to meet growing demand</li> </ul>
10. Provide sufficient public information for the Forest visitor to take full advantage of available goods, services and opportunities	
11. Promote equal opportunity for all citizens in Forest programs and uses, regardless of race, color, creed, disability, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is Federal law and Forest Service policy, therefore it should not be included as a goal in the Forest Plan. It may be appropriate to be included in the administration section of the Plan.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Promote a conservation ethic and knowledge of natural resource management</i></b>	
12. Promote use of the District for environmental education and research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration of agriculture/forestry could be explicitly added to the goal</li> <li>• Add language to provide more emphasis and flexibility for using the Forest for demonstration and research purposes</li> </ul>

<p>13. Demonstrate innovative, ecologically sound management practices that can be applied to other lands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The goal could include the origins of the Hector Land Use Area and the historic goal of demonstrating sustainable agriculture, forestry, and multiple-use management</li> <li>• Include language to facilitate the efficient implementation of this goal.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Consolidate national forest land ownership for more effective management</i></b></p>	
<p>14. This goal involves perusing State enabling legislation, and carrying out land acquisitions and exchanges to improve Forest ownership patterns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the goal of consolidation, the goal should be changed to include items such as boundary management, ease of management by consolidation, protection of sensitive and/or historic resources and unique recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Pursuing enabling legislation may not be an appropriate goal for the revised Forest Plan</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Promote economic stability of local communities</i></b></p>	
<p>15. Provide a fairly consistent flow of goods and services on which local communities depend for their economic survival</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate indirect benefits like tourism into the goal.</li> </ul>
<p>16. Minimize disruptions to local economics that might result from forest management decisions</p>	
<p><b><i>Help meet the Nation's Energy Needs</i></b></p>	
<p>17. This goal involves leasing for gas exploration and development, in a way that is compatible with conserving surface resources and their uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider whether not this should be a goal or addressed as Standards and Guidelines</li> <li>• Consider eliminating this goal</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Retain the ability to respond to a changing environment</i></b></p>	
<p>18. Keep abreast of economic, social, technological, and environmental trends that may affect the Forest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider eliminating this goal because it is already incorporated into our management practices, standards and guidelines, and other goal statements</li> </ul>
<p>19. Limit irreversible commitments of resources to keep options open for future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This goal is in conflict with the goal for gas leasing and development</li> </ul>

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